

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Donna Knight, Treasurer
Missouri Democratic State Committee
419 East High
P.O. Box 719
Jefferson City, MO 65102

NOV 10 1998

Identification Number:

C00135558

Reference:

July Quarterly Report (4/1/98-6/30/98)

Dear Ms. Knight:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

The total listed on Line 11(c), Column B of the Detailed Summary Page appears to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B total. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-Your report discloses in-kind contributions ("donations") from corporations on Schedule H4, supporting Line 21(a) of the Detailed Summary Page (pertinent portions attached). Pursuant to Advisory Opinion 1992-33, the Commission concluded that a "national party committee may accept corporate in-kind donations in connection with fundraising activities" as long as "the federal share of goods or services is paid or transferred to the non-federal account in advance" of the acceptance of the corporate in-kind donations by the federal account.

Advisory Opinion 1992-33 also discloses a detailed method for reporting the receipt and use of in-kind contributions as follows:

MISSOURI DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE PAGE 2

- 1. The transfer of the in-kind corporate contribution from the non-federal account to the federal account should be disclosed on Schedule H3. The itemization on Schedule H3 should include the date the Committee received the in-kind contribution, the amount of the contribution and the fundraising event involved.
- 2. The use or expenditure of in-kind corporate contributions should be disclosed on Schedule H4 as non-federal share disbursements. The itemization should provide the same donor identification information required on a Schedule A for in-kind contributions for Federal elections.
- 3. A second entry on Schedule H4 should then disclose the advance or contemporaneous payment of the federal account's share of the in-kind corporate contribution to the non-federal account.

Please amend your report to properly disclose the in-kind corporate contributions received by your committee (example enclosed).

-Schedule A of your report (pertinent portion(s) attached) discloses a receipt(s) of \$621.30 from the MO Democratic State Committee. Please clarify whether this transfer(s) is from an account maintained by your committee for non-federal activity. If so, be advised that such a transfer is prohibited by 11 CFR §102.5(a)(1)(i) and the full amount of the transfer(s) should be returned to the non-federal account. Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for the transfer-out. In addition, the transfer-out should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 of your next report.

If this transaction represents an "internal transfer" of funds from one federal account to another, and the source(s) of such funds has been identified in previous reports of receipts and disbursements, please note that such transfers should not be itemized as doing so inflates total receipts and cash on hand. If this is the case, please amend your report accordingly.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the acceptance of funds from a non-federal account, your prompt transfer-out of the impermissible funds or clarification of the transaction, will be taken into consideration.

MISSOURI DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE PAGE 3

-Schedule A supporting Line 12 of your report discloses an aggregate year-to-date total for a transfer in from the Missouri Democratic State Committee (State account) which appears to be incorrect. Please amend your report to provide the correct aggregate year-to-date total.

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530. My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

Antoinette L. Kitchen

Reports Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

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DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE H4

JOINT FEDERAL/NON-FEDERAL ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

PAGE OF 49

					FOR LINE 218
NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full)	"				
Missouri Democratic Stat	e Committee	C00135558			
Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code	PURPOSE/EVENT	DATE	TOTAL AMOUNT	FEDERAL SHARE	NONFEDERAL
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Memphis, TN 38101	<u></u> _		·		
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Chicago, IL		04/02/1998	ļ]
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SCHEDULE A

ITEMIZED RECEIPTS

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souri Damocratic State Committee			
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(state Account) Po Box 719	error made on 6/15/98]	
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Other (specify):	rigination restrict to the contract of the con		

11. Prohibited in-Kind Donations for Allocable Activities

While contributions from corporations, tabor organizations and federal government
contractors are prohibited under federal
law, they are permissible under some
state taws. If that is the case, such donetions may be accepted by a confederal
account for strictly nonfederal ectivity.
However, the situation is more complicated when donations of goods or services from such sources are made in
connection with allocable activity, such as
a fundralser at which both federal and
nonfederal funds are collected.

In AO 1992-33, the Commission explained how a committee can legally accept an in-kind donation from a prohibited source in connection with an allocable administrative or fundraising activity. Note that the Commission has not addressed the receipt of in-kind donations from prohibited sources for the other types of allocable expanses (i.e., generic voter drives and candidate support activity).

Advance Payment of Federal Share

To avoid the receipt of a prohibited contribution by the federal account, that eccount must pay the nonfederal account for the federal share of the in-kind donation. This payment—a transfer to the nonfederal account—must be made in advance or on the date the goods or services are received.

Per-Transaction Transfers

The federal transfer may be made on a per-trensaction basis—that is, shortly before or on the same day the in-kind donation is received.

Escrow Transfers

Atternatively, the federal account may make bulk transfers to cover the federal share of anticipated in-kind donations. Under this "escrow" arrangement, a committee makes a good faith estimate of the amount of in-kind donations that it expects to receive and transfers sufficient funds from the federal account to cover the federal share.

Adjustments

Should the federal account pay more than its share of an in-kind donation, edjustment transfers from the nonfederal account are permissible.

Basic Reporting of In-Kind Donations: Example

On October 1, a state party committee receives a \$5,000 in-kind donation of flowers from a corporation for a federal/ nonfederal fundraiser ("Chalman's Gale"). The estimated allocation ratio for the fundraiser is 50 percent federal and 60 percent nonfederal. That same day, the federal account transfers its share of the in-kind donation (\$2,500) to the nonfederal account.

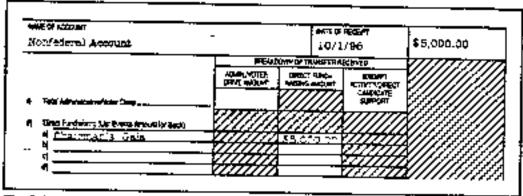
Required Forms

- Schedule H3—Transfers from Nonfederal Account
- Schedule H4—Payments for Alfocable Expenses

Schedule H3—Receipt of In-Kind Donation

The committee reports the receipt of the In-kind donation as a transfer from the nonfederal account for the "Chairman's Gala" fundraiser. The date used here is the date the committee received the flowers.

RECEIPT OF IN-KIND DONATION (H3)



The Schedule H3 shows the nonlederal account's receipt of the \$5,000 in-kind denation of . Nowers on October 1.

"Disbursement" of In-Kind Donation (H4)

Like in-kind contributions, in-kind donetions must be reported as both receipts and disbursements so as not to inflate the cash-on-hand balance. (The disbursement side reflects the use or "expenditure" of the resources.) Schedule H4 is used for the disbursement entry, which shows the \$5,000 in-kind donation as a 100 percent nonfederal disbursement. The donor's name and address is disclosed in the box generally used for pay-

Transfer from Federal Account (H4)
The second entry on Schedule H4 shows
the contemporaneous transfer of \$2,500
(the federal share of the donation) from
the federal account to the nonfederal account. The explanation of the transfer is
described in the "Purpose" box, with a reference to the previous entry.

Alternative Reporting Method

To minimize entries and avoid duplication, a committee may use alternative methods to report transactions relating to in-kind donations.

The committee may use one entry on Schedule H3 to show the receipt of all inkind donations made within the same reporting period for a particular fundraising program or event (or administrative activity).

The committee may also use one entry on Schedule H4 to show total tederal payments (transfers) made on the same day for the federal share of in-kind donations.

Example

A committee receives two in-kind donations from prohibited sources for a mixed federal/nonfederal fundraising event, "July Fundraiser":

- Invitations donated by XYZ Printers, Inc. (value: \$3,000) received on July 1; and
- Balloons donated by ABC Balloons, Inc. (value: \$1,000) received on July 15.

The fundraising ratio for "July Fundraiser" is 50 percent tederal, 50 percent nonfederal. The federal account transfers its \$2,000 share of the two donations on July 1.

DISBURSEMENT OF IN-KIND DONATION; FEDERAL TRANSFER (H4)

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Nonfederal Account	federal	40,41-0			v
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The limit entry shows the "disbursament" of the \$5,000 in-kind donation by the portiederal account. The second entry shows the federal account's transfer of its share of the donation (50 percent or \$2,500) to the nonlederal account.

Schedule H3 -- Receipt of In-Kind Donations

The committee uses one entry on Schedule H3 to show the total in-kind donations for "July Fundraiser" received during the reporting period. The "date of receipt" shows the period during which the committee received the contributions. The "July Fundraiser" entry cross references the Schedule H4 entries showing the "disbursement" of the donations and the identity of the contributors.

RECEIPT OF IN-KIND DONATIONS (H3)

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The \$4,000 in-kind transfer represents a \$3,000 donation received on July 1 and a \$1,000 donation received on July 15. The entry notes the Schedule H4 entries where information on the donation is available.

Schedule H4—"Disbursement" of Donations; Federal Transfer Schedule H4 shows the "disbursement" of the two in-kind donations by the nonfederal account, each entry identifying the donor and the dates the donations were received.

The third entry shows the federal account's payment for its 50 percent share of the two donations and the date of the transfer to the nonfederal account. The entry refers to the previous two entries to show the transfer relates to those transactions.

"Escrow" Transfer

Advance transfers from the federal account to the nonfederal account to pay the federal share of anticipated in-kind donations are reported on Schedule H3. If known, the particular activity (fundralsing program/event or administrative) to which the transfer applies should be noted. If the corresponding in-kind donations are received in a later reporting period, it is understood that the Schedule H3 entry will not be able to list the related Schedule H4 donor entries (showing the nonfederal "disbursement" of the donations).

DISBURSEMENT OF IN-KIND DONATIONS; FEDERAL TRANSFER (H4)

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State Party Committee					
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City, 21410 ZIP	(ADS À BING	B abova)			
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The first two entries on this schedule provide information on the in-kind donations received and -- "disbursed" by the nonlederal account. The third entry shows that the federal ecocunt's 50 percent share of the donations was transferred to the nonlederal account on July 1. The entry cross references the related entries.

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